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TELEFAX 10

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Trieste/Czechoslovakia/Albania

DATE DISTR. 21 Sep 50

SUBJECT Reduction of Czech-Albanian In-Transit Shipments Through Trieste

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. Prior to 25 August 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The Trieste freight forwarding agency Tergestea, Via Torrebianca 13, has handled the major part of all shipments arriving by rail for Albania, as well as in transit Albanian shipments arriving by sea for reshipment by rail. Recently, the flow of goods from Czechoslovakia to Albania through Trieste was considerably reduced.
2. Seeking to determine the cause of this reduction, Giulio Valenzin, manager and owner of Tergestea, made numerous inquiries especially among crew members of Albanian schooners which ply between Trieste and Durres. From one of the captains of these schooners, presumably the captain of the MESAFILIKU which departed from Trieste for Durres on 24 August, Valenzin learned that the Czechs are seeking to avoid the port of Trieste as much as possible because of the presence of Allied authorities and the stringent controls imposed on shipments.
3. Because of these controls, war materiel and military equipment cannot be shipped to Albania either in quantity or with any assurance of safety. The Czechs, therefore, are shipping these items through Poland to the port of Gdynia where they are loaded aboard Polish or Soviet vessels bound for Albanian ports. Another route employed is via the Danube River to the Black Sea where merchandise can be placed on Soviet, Bulgarian, Rumanian or Albanian vessels en route to the Albanian ports of Durres and Vlone.

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